

FUNCTIONALIZED PARTICLES

ABSTRACT

[0061] The present invention provides functionalized particles and methods for delivering said particles capable of crossing a physiologic barrier and exerting an effect. In one embodiment, the present invention provides a method of delivering a particle to a mammal comprising the steps of contacting a functionalized particle with a tag and introducing the functionalized and tagged particle to a mammal, wherein the functionalized portion of the particle is selected from the group consisting of acrylic acid, 2-hydroxyethyl acrylate, 2-acrylamido-2-methyl-1-propanesulfonic acid, allylamine, carboxyl group, hydroxyl group, sulfonic group, aldehyde and amine group. The particle is a biodegradable or nodegradable polymer and less than 1.0 mm in diameter.